NUMB. CCCLXXV.

The SPECTATOR.

Non poſſidentem multa vocaveris
Rectè beatum: rectiùs occupat
Nomen beati, qui Deorum
Muneribus ſapienter uti,
Duramque callet Pauperiem pati,
Pejuſque Letho flagitium timet. Hor.

Saturday, May 10. 1712.

ve more than once had occaſion to mention Noble Saying of *Seneca* the Philoſopher, that Virtuous Perſon ſtruggling with Misfortunes, d riſing above them, is an Object on which s themſelves may look down with Delight. herefore ſet before my Reader a Scene of d of Diſtreſs in private Life, for the Specu- f this Day.

minent Citizen, who had lived in good Faſhion edit, was by a Train of Accidents, and by oidable Perplexity in his Affairs, reduced to Condition. There is a Modeſty uſually at- faultleſs Poverty, which made him rather reduce his manner of Living to his preſent ances, than ſollicit his Friends in order to the Shew of an Eſtate when the Subſtance e. His Wife, who was a Woman of Senſe ne, behaved her ſelf on this occaſion with mon Decency, and never appeared ſo amiable in as now. Inſtead of upbraiding him with the Fortune ſhe had brought, or the many great ſhe had refuſed for his Sake, ſhe redoubled ſtances of her Affection, while her Husband inually pouring out his Heart to her in Com- that he had ruined the beſt Woman in the He ſometimes came Home at a time when not expect him, and ſurpriſed her in Tears, ſhe endeavoured to conceal, and always put Air of Cheerfulneſs to receive him. To eir Expence, their eldeſt Daughter (whom I ll *Amanda*) was ſent into the Country, to ſe of an honeſt Farmer who had married a of the Family. This young Woman was ſenſive of the Ruin which was approaching, d privately engaged a Friend in the Neigh- od to give her an Account of what paſſed me to time in her Father's Affairs. *Amanda* the Bloom of her Youth and Beauty, when d of the Mannor, who often called in at the 's Houſe as he follow'd his Country Sports, ionately in Love with her. He was a Man Generoſity, but from a looſe Education had red a hearty Averſion to Marriage. He there- ertained a Deſign upon *Amanda*'s Virtue, at preſent he thought fit to keep private. nocent Creature, who never ſuſpected his In- , was pleaſed with his Perſon, and having d his growing Paſſion for her, hoped by ſo geous a Match ſhe might quickly be in a Capacity of ſupporting her impoveriſhed Relations One Day as he called to ſee her, he found her in Tears over a Letter ſhe had juſt received from her Friend, which gave an Account that her Father had lately been ſtripped of every thing by an Execution. The Lover, who with ſome Difficulty found out the Cauſe of her Grief, took this occaſion to make her a Propoſal. It is impoſſible to expreſs *Amanda*'s Confuſion when ſhe found his Pretenſions were not honourable. She was now deſerted of all her Hopes, and had no Power to ſpeak; but ruſhing from him in the utmoſt Diſturbance, locked her ſelf up in her Chamber. He immediately diſpatched a Meſſenger to her Father with the following Letter.

SIR,

'I Have heard of your Misfortune, and have of- 'fered your Daughter, if ſhe will live with me, 'to ſettle on her Four hundred Pounds a Year, and 'to lay down the Sum for which you are now di- 'ſtreſſed. I will be ſo ingenuous as to tell you that 'I do not intend Marriage: But if you are wiſe, 'you will uſe your Authority with her not to be too 'nice, when ſhe has an opportunity of ſaving you 'and your Family, and of making her ſelf happy.

I am, &c.

This Letter came to the Hands of *Amanda*'s Mother; ſhe opened and read it with great Surprize and Concern. She did not think it proper to explain her ſelf to the Meſſenger, but deſiring him to call again the next Morning, ſhe wrote to her Daughter as follows.

Deareſt Child,

'YOUR Father and I have juſt now received a 'Letter from a Gentleman who pretends 'Love to you, with a Propoſal that inſults our 'Misfortunes, and would throw us to a lower De- 'gree of Miſery than any thing which is come upon 'us. How could this barbarous Man think, that 'the tendereſt of Parents would be tempted to ſup- 'ply their Want, by giving up the beſt of Children 'to Infamy and Ruin? It is a mean and cruel Artifice 'to make this Propoſal at a time when he thinks 'our Neceſſities muſt compel us to any thing; but 'we will not eat the Bread of Shame; and therefore

'we

'we charge thee not to think of us, but to avoid 'the Snare which is laid for thy Virtue. Beware of 'pitying us: It is not ſo bad as you have perhaps 'been told. All things will yet be well, and I ſhall 'write my Child better News.

'I have been interrupted. I know not how I was 'moved to ſay things would mend. As I was go- 'ing on, I was ſtartled by a Noiſe of one that 'knocked at the Door, and hath brought us an un- 'expected ſupply of a Debt which had long been 'owing. O I will now tell thee all. It is ſome 'Days I have lived almoſt without Support, hav- 'ing conveyed what little Mony I could raiſe to 'your poor Father——Thou wilt weep to think 'where he is, yet be aſſured he will be ſoon at Li- 'berty. That cruel Letter would have broke his 'Heart, but I have concealed it from him. I have 'no Companion at preſent beſides little *Fanny*, who 'ſtands watching my Looks as I write, and is cry- 'ing for her Siſter. She ſays ſhe is ſure you are 'not well, having diſcovered that my preſent Trou- 'ble is about you. But do not think I would 'thus repeat my Sorrows, to grieve thee; No, it 'is to entreat thee not to make them inſupporta- 'ble, by adding what would be worſe than all. Let 'us bear chearfully an Affliction, which we have 'not brought on our ſelves, and remember there 'is a Power who can better deliver us out of it 'than by the Loſs of thy Innocence. Heaven pre- 'ſerve my Dear Child.

Thy Affectionate Mother——

The Meſſenger, notwithſtanding that he promi- ſed to deliver this Letter to *Amanda*, carryed it firſt to his Maſter, who he imagined would be glad to have an Opportunity of giving it into her Hands himſelf. His Maſter was impatient to know the Succeſs of his Propoſal, and therefore broke open the Letter privately, to ſee the Contents. He was not a little moved at ſo true a Picture of Virtue in Diſtreſs. But at the ſame time was infinitely ſurpriſed to find his Offers rejected. However, he reſolved not to ſuppreſs the Letter, but carefully Sealed it up again, and carried it to *Amanda*. All his Endeavours to ſee her were in vain, till ſhe was aſſured he brought a Letter from her Mother. He would not part with it, but upon Condition that ſhe ſhould read it without leaving the Room. While ſhe was peruſing it, he fixed his Eyes on her Face with the deepeſt Attention: Her Concern gave a new Softneſs to her Beauty, and when ſhe burſt into Tears, he could no longer refrain from bear- ing a part in her Sorrow, and telling her, that he too had read the Letter, and was reſolved to make Reparation for having been the Occaſion of it. My Reader will not be diſpleaſed to ſee this Second E- piſtle, which he now wrote to *Amanda*'s Mother.

MADAM,

'I Am full of Shame, and will never forgive my 'ſelf, if I have not your Pardon for what I 'lately wrote. It was far from my Intention to 'add Trouble to the Afflicted; nor could any thing, 'but my being a Stranger to you, have betrayed me 'into a Fault, for which if I live I ſhall endea- 'vour to make you amends, as a Son. You can- 'not be unhappy, while *Amanda* is your Daug- 'nor ſhall be, if any thing can prevent it, wh- 'in the power of,

MADAM,

Your moſt Obedient

Humble Servant.

This Letter he ſent by his Steward, and fo- ter went up to Town himſelf, to compleat t- nerous Act he had now reſolved on. By his F- ſhip and Aſſiſtance *Amanda*'s Father was qui- a Condition of retrieving his perplexed Affai- conclude, he Marryed *Amanda*, and enjoy- double Satisfaction of having reſtored a wor- mily to their former Proſperity, and of m- himſelf happy by an Alliance to their Virtue-

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the particular Deſire of ſeveral Per- Quality.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Come-

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this- Saturday, the 10th Day of May, will be Pre-ented a P- The Tempeſt; or, The Inchanted Iſland. As it was al- Shakeſpear by Sir William D'avenant, and the late Mr. Dryd- Laureat. With new Scenes, Machines, and all the Origin- ons proper to the Play. Being the laſt time of perf- Seaſon. By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to b- behind the Scenes. And on Monday next will be preſent- ſtory and Fall of Caius Marius, for the Benefit of Mrs. Bra-

Never Performed but Twice.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Mark- preſent Saturday being the 10th Day of May, will be new Opera call'd Hercules. The Boxes 8s. Pit 5s. Firſt 6d. Upper Gallery 1s. 6d. Boxes upon the Stage Half To begin at half an hour after ſeven, the Entertainment By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admi- the Scenes.

An extraordinary Collection of Origina- ings by the moſt Eminent Maſters, viz. Rhaphael, Titia- gia, Guido Reni, Carracci, Palma, Andrea Sciiavoni, Gu- ſano, Perino del Vago, Vandyke, Elſhammer, &c. (being Collection of Joſeph Craig Eſq; deceas'd) will be ſold by on Thurſday the 15th of this Inſtant May, at his Lea- Houſe in Craig-Court near Charing Croſs, where Catalog- had and the Pictures ſeen, on Monday, Tueſday and Wed- fore the Sale, from 10 in the Morning, till 3 in the Afte- Pictures to be taken away in 3 Days after the Sale. N- Houſe is to be Lett.

At Stationer's Hall near Ludgate, on We- the 14th Inſtant, will be performed all the Muſick, both Inſtrumental, in the Opera of Diocleſian; Compoſed by the Henry Purcell; which, for the Beauty of Expreſſion, Ex- Harmony, and Grandeur of Contrivance, gives a firſt place ſical Opera in Europe. For the Benefit of Mr. Smith and bert. Beginning at 6 a Clock. Tickets are deliver'd at Gar- Will's Coffee-houſes in Cornhil; Sam's in Ludgate-ſtreet; and Smyrna at St. James's; the Britiſh and Young Man's at Gr- ſs; at the Tilt-yard at Whitehall; at Tom's and Will's Garden, and at the Hall, at 5s. each. N. B. The Tickets for the 9th of April will be taken this Day.

Whereas the Viper has been a Medicine app- the Phyſicians of all Nations; there is now prepar'd the Va- Compound of it, a Preparation altogether new, not only all Volatils and Cordials whatſoever, but all the Preparatio- per it ſelf, being the Receipt of a late eminent Phyſician, pured only by a Relation. It is the moſt Sovereign Remedy Fainting, Swoonings, Lowneſs of Spirits, Vapours, &c. all ill Habits of Body, or Diſorders proceeding from Inte- Eating of Fruit, Drinking of bad Wine, or any other po- crude Liquors, and is good to carry off the ill Effects or R- the Bark or Jeſuits Powder. Sold only at the following Co- viz. John's in Swithin's alley near the Royal Exchange, N- Fleetſtreet, and at St. James's in St. James's-ſtreet, at 5s.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*. Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are tak- as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildi- the Strand*.